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# HOTEL VENDOME

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

**J. T. BROOKS**

GEORGE P. SNELL

MANAGER

GOLF,

BOWLING,

TENNIS,

SWIMMING,

DISCO-TEQUE,

WHEELCHAIR,

ACCOMMODATIONS,

BAR,

RESTAURANT,

BARBERSHOP,

WINDY,

CLOTHING,

F 869  
1533 H3

IN EXCHANGE

 *My dear Clark,*

## Points of Interest in San José and Vicinity

The great Lick Observatory on Mt. Hamilton. Round trip, \$4.00 daytime; \$5.00 on Saturday night.

Alum Rock Park, via electric railroad. Take a hot sulphur bath.

The New Almaden Mines (Quicksilver), and interesting drives through the orchards, best seen by a carriage trip.

Stanford University. Round trip, \$1.00.

The Big Trees at Felton. "The biggest and oldest living things in the world at the present time."

The beautiful twenty-seven mile drive along the foothills to Los Gatos and Congress Springs at Saratoga.

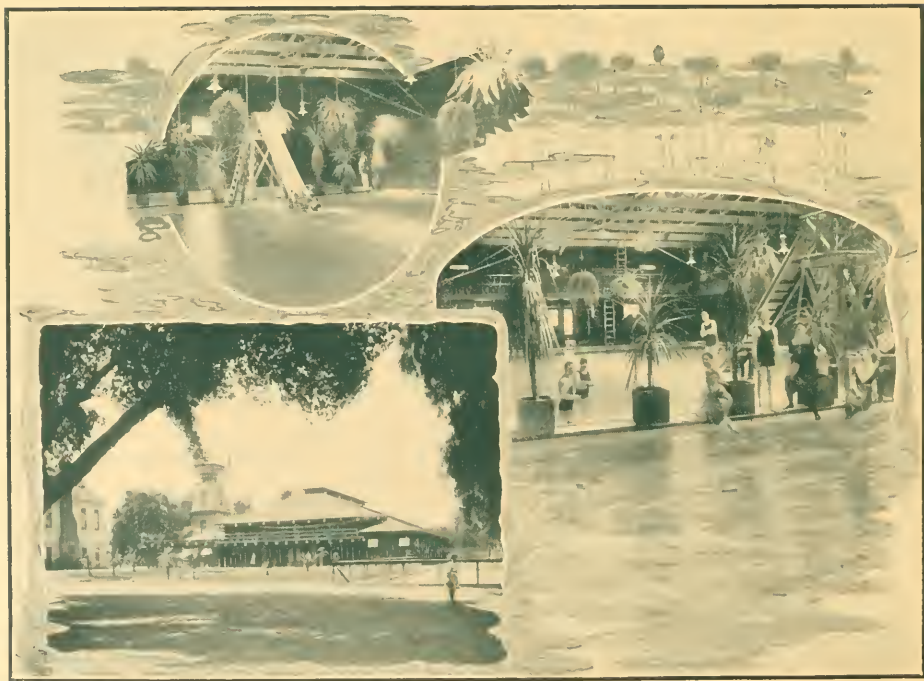
The old Mission of Santa Clara, three and a half miles; one of the best-preserved of the California Missions.



NOT less than eight ago the city of San Jose, in the center of the foothills of the fertile Santa Clara Valley of California, was known chiefly as the starting point for the famous New Almaden quicksilver mines. After that came the transformation to horticulture, and the city became the center of the largest fruit-growing region in the world. Taken upon Mr. Hamilton, off on his way, was built the Lick Observatory where was placed, at astronomical noon, the then largest telescope in the world. Tourists and all people who loved things, especially San Jose and Tambo, went up toward the city to see the many and many unusual wonders.

For all these attractions the city is young today, not having any power or an old of age, so far as the actual attractive value to the traveler is concerned. It has feature of comfort and luxury known now wherever there is travel here — the Hotel Vendome.

Because of the atmosphere named, probably, the high point to see out the beauty of its surroundings and the excellence of its equipment, have moved to making the hotel itself one of the great attractive features of the big state where Nature's handiwork makes the whole world rich. It is easy enough to see up to the





concerning change rate, which the Hotel Vendôme is no longer far away to the great traveling public, and only tourists that stand the rate of date for themselves in describing the resort that combines so many attractions.

### *Bathing and Bowling*

Not only to the Californians but to the far-away tourists who find themselves at Hotel Vendôme a place which is worth while to see and where to stay even in case. All things have combined to make good use, and the hotel management, which has advanced and progressed, are keeping pace with the world's progress. Our resort — much of the way being some since the close of the season of 1905 — has the 1906 been greatly enlarged and improved. Here are now all the amusement resorts and recreation, courts and clubs. Here is a big outdoor pool, with a plunge tank, the delight of the swimmer and the life-long use of children. Close to the pool is a running, 80 feet wide by 120 feet in length, under arch bridges and over a running stream, better equipment. One of the best places to go to for any other

28 to 30 feet, and the small square pit is covered by a heavy, flat slab of stone  
 not on hinges, but by a heavy iron cover for the purpose of the ground.



It is a large, commodious building, and is fitted for the dwelling of a family of moderate means. It is situated on the corner of the Broadway and the  
 Broadway and the Broadway, and is a fine specimen of the architecture of the city.

### *Large and Com- modious Annex*

Of the building of the most solid and



Just why the many peculiar charms of Hotel Vendome are not more widely known to the tourist travelers who come to California for health or recreation is among the mysteries. They should be known, that's certain, and they are fast getting to be, as the seasons pass. Of the many hotels of this big State where the air is soft the whole winter through, Vendome is the only resting place which unites in attractive measure the advantages of rural life and city comforts.

### ***Opportunities for Diversion***

At the Vendome there are opportunities for rides everywhere, by electric cars or carriages, by bicycle or automobile, through as pretty a little city as the round world possesses. Opportunities are here, too, within five minutes' ride to walk among the blooming fruit orchards, to visit the far-famed Lick Observatory or the old Mission at Santa Clara. And close at hand, all about the Vendome, is a park in which the palms of the tropics and towering elms of New England brush their waving branches. And then, within fifty miles, and connected by three lines of railway, is San Francisco, metropolis of the Pacific Coast, ninth in population among the cities of the United

water, with its steps and department stores and stores, and the most attractive hotel owned by a pleasure-loving people. At the advantage of being, at the foot of a superb, and for the guest at Vendome, whose guests are, at the all and over and on all sides.

### *For Downright Enjoyment*

By all tourists (you know, by cruise and have traveled the world's highways, the hotel is ranked among the best equipped, most homelike and most convenient. In architecture the building is an interesting specimen of welcoming aspect. Temporarily secluded it is, yet convenient to all the avenues of travel. It is only a few blocks from the Southern Pacific railway depot, through which pass daily the overland trains, going or coming to or from Los Angeles and the East. And for downright enjoyment the traveler cannot do better than to stop off here and see and realize all the happiness that is concentrated at Vendome for his especial benefit.

Wide verandas, a welcoming rotunda and assembly hall, old-fashioned fireplaces, wide corridors, reading-rooms, billiard parlors and elegantly furnished apartments are

few of the many attractions to be found at Hotel Vendôme. There are guest rooms, mostly en suite, supplied with bath and other modern conveniences.

The hotel grounds are as picturesque as modern landscape gardening and Nature's own hand can make them. Here are giant oaks, redwoods, pines, palms, peppers, figs and flowering shrubs.

Cozy rustic seats invite you to rest unnoticed in their embrace, and lawns of velvet smoothness await your step. The cuisine is a feature of the establishment. Competent chefs are in charge. No seasonable delicacy is missing from the menu, nor attraction from the service. The drainage is perfect, the water supply excellent, and electricity lights the hotel throughout.

On the Venetian gondola the well-known writer says:

"The grounds immediately surrounding the buildings consist of an exquisite labyrinth of forest and foliage and green lawns and bowliering vista of beauty. There is a grand tree, not less than a hundred years old, braved its patriarchal head in response to the waves of the sea, marks the year celebrated by the Franciscan missionaries in our case, two deep bands with perfect petals and eyes and centers, above ferns, cypresses and cypripediums, as though it had survived the centuries for the sole purpose."<sup>1</sup>

Many are the cities of interest from the land. Physical surroundings are also of interest. The gardens are always in blossom, there being an excellent state of maintenance with the water. One of the celebrated drive to Lake Observatory may be mentioned—the Alamogordo Springs, 7 miles away; Menlo Park and Stanford University, 18 miles through orchards and vine; Edgewood, 200—2 miles distant; Berryessa, the orchard district, 5 miles; the Santa Clara Mission and College, 5 1/2 miles; the New Almaden mine, 2000 estimated quicksilver mines in all years, 12 miles; the



UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC, HAMILTON, CALIF. (Left) THE GREAT LICK OBSERVATORY, HAMILTON, CALIF. (Right) THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC, HAMILTON, CALIF.

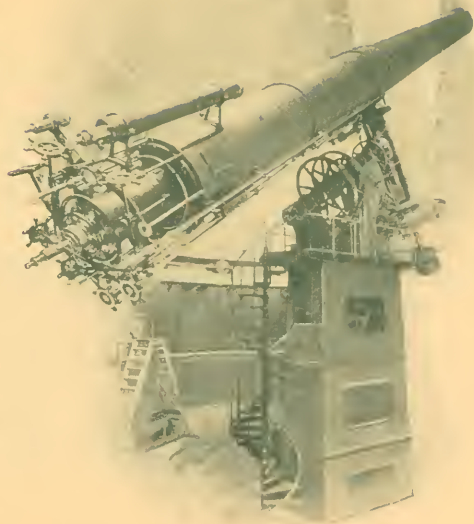
University of the Pacific, 1 mile; the Mission San Jose, 12 miles; Congress Spring  
to Saratoga, 12 miles, through fruit farms and vineyards.

### *The Great Lick Observatory*

By reason of the bequest of James Lick, a California millionaire, there now  
today, on the summit of Mt. Hamilton, 4249 feet above sea level, the greatest astrono-  
mical observatory in the world. One cannot appreciate what this statement means



right, his eye has seen and his mind has grasped the wonderful equipment there provided for searching the heavens and revealing the secrets of the stars. It was in 1875 that Lieg devised \$700,000 for the establishment on Mt. Hamilton of "the most powerful telescope" possible to construct. The appointed trustees worked earnestly and faithfully, but it was not until 1887 that the great lens, 36 inches in diameter, fitted in the extremely complicated telescope mechanism, was announced ready for action. The big telescope and the many other instruments have been installed in the great and famous observatory have



THE LICK OBSERVATORY, CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

It is the largest and most powerful telescope in the world, and is the only one of its kind in the United States. It was built by the Lick Observatory, and is the property of the University of California. It is the largest and most powerful telescope in the world, and is the only one of its kind in the United States. It was built by the Lick Observatory, and is the property of the University of California.



COLLEGE BUILDING AND GROUNDS  
1885



View of the building from the south side.  
The building is situated on a hill and is surrounded by trees.

been made. The observatory is a part of the University of California, whose scientific colleges are at Berkeley, across the bay from San Francisco. The reservation on Mt. Hamilton comprises 2581 acres, and many students come here for post-graduate courses. Speaking of this great telescope and the observatory work, former Director Edward S. Holden says:

‘Great instruments of this class require a serene and quiet air in order that they may do their best work. In this respect the Lick telescope is unrivaled. It stands on the very summit of Mt. Hamilton, in the Mt. Diablo range. From May till November the days and nights are clear, and during the whole summer the air is calm; the stars do not twinkle; the highest magnifying powers can be employed. No other of the observatories east of the Sierra Nevada has such advantages; and all large telescopes there situated are more or less handicapped in this regard. The Lick Observatory was one of the very first ‘mountain’ observatories to be constructed, and has long been a hot-bed of the patent and trademark of a large number of spurious establishments in this line. The following are presented for each a situation have been



MAST HOUSE - Lighthouse, Fort Mifflin, Philadelphia, Pa.

necessarily above here, and it is an all-thoroughly organized Mt. Hamilton and in a box.

### ***A Soul-stirring Drive Over a Wonderful Mountain Road***

The drive of 26 miles, from Hotel Vendome up to Mt. Hamilton's summit, is a never-to-be-forgotten event. There is not

a better chance in all California to get a fair idea of the mountain valleys of the

State, of the canyons, of tangled undergrowth, where the manzanita

and chemical rise the sun; or during valley flats, dotted with

spreading oaks. This is the sort of country Bret Harte describes, and it's all seen on this road up Mt.

Hamilton to Lick Observatory.



The great dome is in plain view from the upper windows of the hotel, and at almost every turn of the road its white hemisphere glistens in the sunlight. The first four miles one speeds along a wide avenue across the floor of Santa Clara Valley, by fruit farms and vineyards. Then, at a turn of the road begin the foothills, vine-clad and tree-covered. A wonderful panorama begins to unfold, and at every turn a new view presents itself. The garden valley of the world lies at your feet, every foot of it under cultivation and thickly populated. The bay of San Francisco reaches out in



Looking south  
from San Jose  
towards  
San Francisco





THE TRAIL TO THE LOMA PRIMA  
SAN RAMON, CALIF.

point, the Los Olivos valley. The twenty-four miles of road was constructed at a cost of \$18,000, and is one of the best graded, as well as one of the most picturesque roads in the world.

Rolling down, gliding like mirrors in the sun. Across the valley the Santa Cruz Mountains form the further end, and proud Loma Prima stands guard to the coast. Above and beyond are the slopes of Mt. Hamilton, and, at the top, the objective

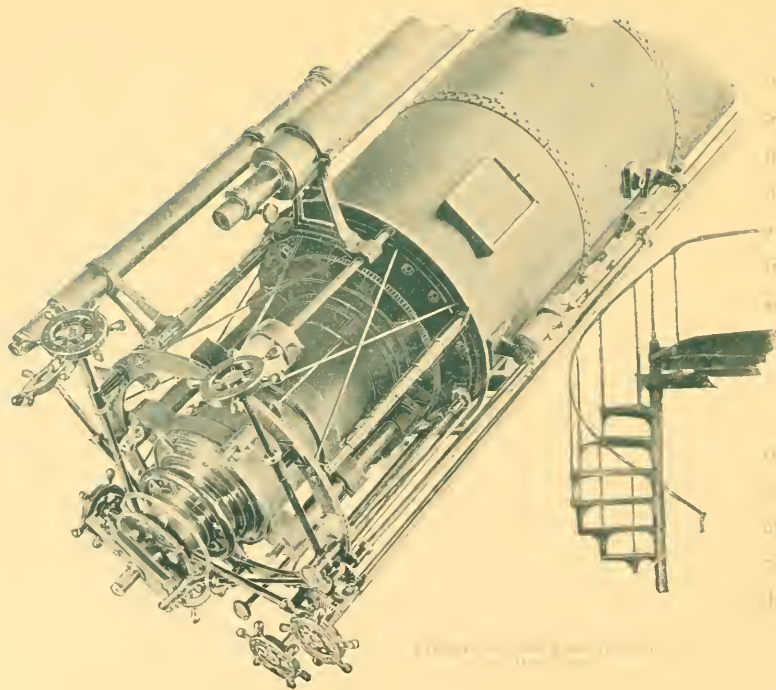
point, the Los Olivos valley. The twenty-four miles of road was constructed at a cost of \$18,000, and is one of the best graded, as well as one of the most picturesque roads in the world.



Breaking the monotony of climbing, a descent is made into Hall's Valley. The larger world is left behind you, and sylvan groves, rugged hills, sweet pastures and mountain fastnesses take its place. Up the mountain side again, around Cape Horn and into Santa Ysabel Canyon and the Hotel Santa Ysabel, at Smith's Creek, under the same management as Hotel Vendome, is the next and last stopping place on the way. Horses are changed while you have lunch. Sitting on the veranda at Santa Ysabel, the great dome looks but a little way up; one cannot imagine it seven miles of climbing. No accommodations of any kind can be obtained

Round the last turn  
and the summit  
is reached





on the construction  
being made in  
order to be in  
order. The  
very great and  
great amount of  
work done by  
Harrison's  
The 18th century  
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THE 18TH CENTURY



his achievements of science, are sufficient to fill the heart and to occupy the mind of the most intellectual and ambitious. Two or three hours can be profitably and pleasantly spent at the observatory, but the supreme moments of the trip are yet in store — the descent. The stage is ready. A crack of the whip and you are off for Smith's Creek, seven miles away by road and 2263 feet below. Rounding curve after curve, as only the experienced driver and the sure-footed horses can, one moment hanging on the ledge hundreds of feet above the tree tops, the next buried between canyon walls that shut out the view of heaven. Santa Ysabel again — a change of horses and you are ready for the dozens of new wonders passed but not noted on the upward drive. So short seems the time between Santa Ysabel and home — a few hours — that one can scarcely realize the height and distance covered.

### *San Jose and the Fruitful Santa Clara Valley*

When, more than 3 centuries ago, the old Spanish fathers sought to establish a mission near San Francisco Bay, they wisely selected the Santa Clara Valley, the richest stretch of water-meadow to grow the corn needed by Bay Area Indians, with beyond it on the edge of the truly most beautiful valleys in the world.

stretching southward from the bay for a distance of sixty miles, with an average width of twenty, the timbered mountains of Santa Cruz protect the valley from the north winds on the west, while the picturesque Coast Range guards its entire length from the excessive heat of interior California. It is open to the cooling breezes of the Golden Gate, but lying beyond its reaches of summer fog—and here the paucity found an ideal domain whose sunny skies rivaled those of Italy, and whose general soil responded bountifully to those who cultivated it.

It is needless to say that a climate in which nearly all fruits are grown and in which the geranium and the rose bloom in the gardens all the winter through, and the palms are never touched by frost, is genial, inviting and healthful. It is a climate in which the weak and ailing grow strong and braced, and the dunsan olive, olive tree



THE HOUSE OF THE LATE DR. J. H. HARRIS, 1872.



THE PRINCIPAL GOLF COURSE IN SANTA FE.

long given up by his fond physician, now, twelve and more years later, is in  
constant vigor. In the dry and invigorating atmosphere of the Santa Fe  
hills are many prosperous fruit growers who came (other years ago) afflicted with  
pulmonary or other ailments, and who have found here not only the blessing of

heart, but all the comforts and pleasures of attractive surroundings and the privileges of a society that is as refined and desirable as that of any of the Eastern States or sections of the old world, for the reason that it is made up very largely from the best classes of Eastern and Southern people.

There is nothing enervating in the warmth of Santa Clara's summer sun, and the winters are open and delightful. According to the United States official report for a recent year San Jose has more clear days than any city in California, leading with 285 out of 365 days. Of the days not clear, nearly all are warm and comfortable. The rainfall averages 15 inches in the valley and 30 inches in the foothills, annually, and so long, cold and tedious storms make the winters dreary. The rains, during the few months of the winter season, are intermittent — a few days of warm rain followed by many days of glorious sunshine, and then another brief period of rainy weather.

### ***Health Seeking and Out-of-Door Recreation***

The mild and open winters make San Jose and Santa Clara Valley a highly desirable place of residence for health and outdoor enjoyment. Golf, tennis, croquet



The San Jose Cathedral, with the tropical landscape around the entrance, is one of the many beautiful sights in San Jose.

beach, golf and spring amusements are all forms of local winter outdoor recreation. Near San Jose is one of the best and most picturesque golf links in the State, the Linda Vista, with clubhouse and all comforts. The city is the center of 35 miles of smooth, sprinkled roads, and horseback riding, driving and wheeling are favorite winter as well as summer recreations. San Jose has one of the finest theaters in California, and it is on the circuit of all the leading dramatic companies. The long summer, the dry air, the beautiful streams and the picturesque scenery

are all enjoyed by the people of San Jose.





Prarie richard in bloom, as seen from the road  
to Lick Observatory

of the wooded mountains that are just at hand, all make camping here one of the most delightful forms of recreation. The water is pure, wood abundant, trout and game plentiful; ferns, wild flowers and flowering shrubs bedeck ridges, canyons and mountain side, and the nights are just cool enough to give the camper sound and delicious slumber.







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